

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRASIL 02867 111324Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 ICA-11 /049 W
-----081378 111432Z /47 42
P 101650Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7032
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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FOLTEL SENT ACTION BRASILIA FROM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO REPEATED
FOR ACTION/INFO

QUOTE

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, BR
SUBJ: PROPOSED DOL SAFETY SEMINAR

REF: (A) STATE 63338, (B) SAO PAULO A-19 (C) SAO
PAULO 827

SUMMARY: GOVERNMENT OF BRAZIL GIVES CAUTIOUS APPROVAL FOR
PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF LABOR (DOL) AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD
PROCESSING SAFETY TEAM. END SUMMARY.

1. QUALIFIED APPROVAL: SUBSECRETARY OF LABOR FOR HEALTH
AND SAFETY ROBERTO WEBER CONTACTED LABATT APRIL 6 TO SAY THAT
LABOR MINISTER PRIETO HAD GIVEN HIM AUTHORITY TO APPROVE
VISIT OF PROPOSED DOL SAFETY TEAM. WEBER SAID QUALIFICATIONS
AND TECHNICAL EXPERTISE OF PROPOSED TEAM MEMBERS PERSUADED
HIM THAT VISIT WOULD BE USEFUL EVEN THOUGH MINISTER HAD ALID
PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUCCESSFUL VISIT ON WEBER'S SHOULDERS.
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CONSEQUENTLY WEBER PERSONALLY WILL ACT AS BRAZILIAN COORDINATOR
FOR ALL ARRANGEMENTS AND WILL ACCOMPANY TEAM DURING ITS VISIT.

2. SOME MISGIVINGS: WEBER RECOUNTED AT LENGTH PROBLEMS WHICH
Arose DURING VISITS OF TWO PREVIOUS TEAMS. IN REGARD TO LAST
VISIT THESE RENGED FROM MISUNDERSTANDINGS ON SIZE AND
COMPOSITION TEAM AND ITS ACTIVITY TO "PUBLIC CRITICISM" OF THE

GOP BY TEAM MEMBERS DURING VISIT. AS MOST RECENT EXAMPLE, WEBER CITED AN ARTICLE BY 1977 TEAM MEMBER PROFESSOR RICHARD GINNOLD WHICH APPEARED IN JANUARY 1978 EDITION OF BRAZIL'S LEADING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY MAGAZINE. WEBER TOOK STRONG EXCEPTION TO TONE AND FACTUAL CONTENT OF ARTICLE. WEBER WAS ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE AS HE SAID HE HAD OPENED ACCESS TO MANY SOURCES FOR GINNOLD YET WAS GIVEN NO INDICATION THAT GINNOLD WOULD PREPARE ARTICLE FOR PUBLICATION IN BRAZIL. WEBER REGRETTED HAD HAD NOT BEEN GIVE OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON TEXT PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

3. NEW START: IN SPITE OF PAST EXPERIENCE WEBER WILLING TO ACCEPT NEW DOL TEAM ON UNDERSTANDING THAT TEAM WILL BE LIMITED TO THE FIVE EXPERTS ALREADY PROPOSED PLUS DOL LEADER. WEBER REQUESTS DOL TEAM LEADER TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING TEAMS'S SCHEDULE WITH HIMA DNFOR OVERSEEING TEAMS ACTIVITIES.

4. SCHEDULING: WEBER SUGGESTS THAT TEAM CAN MOST EFFECTIVELY UTILIZED BY HOLDING PESTICIDE AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY SEMINAR IN INTERIOR TOWN OF SANTA ROSA (A MAJOR WHEAT AND SOY-BEAN AREA IN STATE OF RIO GRANDE DO SUL), FOLLOWED BY FOOD PROCESSING SEMINAR IN PORT ALEGRE AND SEMINARS IN STATE OF SAO PAULO. MORE DETAILED SCHEDULE SUGGESTIONS WILL FOLLOW. TIMING REMAINS AS PROPOSED BY REF A.

5. COMMENT: WEBER TAKES PERSONAL PRIDE FOR NATIONAL ACCIDENT PREVENTION PROGRAM WHICH, STATISTICALLY SHOWS ACCIDENT RATE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DECLINE FROM 18 PERCENT IN 1972 TO 9 PERCENT IN 1977 (REF B). IT WOULD BE HARD TO EXAGGERATE WEBER'S SENSITIVITY TO TO WHAT HE REGARDS AS CRITICISM ON THIS SUBJECT. REGARDLESS OF MERITS OF CASE, NEW TEAM, IT IT COMES, SHOULD BE FULLY AWARE OF WEBER'S FEELINGS. AT SAME, WEBER IS GENUINELY OPEN TO NEW APPROACHES ON SAFETY AND HEALTH. FOR THIS REASON EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT DOL CONTINUE WITH PLANS TO BRING SAFETY TEAM HERE MAY 20 - JUNE 5.

6. AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIAL AIRFRIEGHTED IN SUPPORT OF TEAM SHOULD BE MARKED PROPERTY OF U.S. GOVERNMENT -- NOT FOR RESALE. CHAPIN UNQUOTE JOHNSON

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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